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Annual Report

for the Year ending
31st December, 1950



By

H. KELSO WATSON

Medical Officer of Health



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LEEK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

For the
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1950

By
H. KELSO WATSON,
Medical Officer of Health

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor G. Baker.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor R. G. Grindon.

Members : Councillors J. Bennison, J. W. Blackhurst,
H. N. Bourne, T. W. Buxton, E. V. Coates, C. R.
Critchlow, W. E. Dawson, J. Harrison, T. Harvey,
C. R. Hewlett, G. W. Leese, J. Needham, T. Riley,
G. Shufflebotham, Mrs. G. Sigley, P. Smith, E.
Titterton and F. Turner.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health.

H. KELSO WATSON, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector.

F. HEMINCWAY, M.S.I.A., Certified Food Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

D. K. PEDLEY, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Certified Food Inspector.

REPORT

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	72,623 acres.
Number of inhabited houses	4,774
Rateable Value	£59,523
Sum represented by penny rate	£233
Population	16,610
Number of persons per acre	.23

INDUSTRIES

The main occupations of the inhabitants are farming and mining, but a substantial number of persons are employed in the silk mills in Leek, and in the quarries on the Derbyshire border.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	140	142	282
Illegitimate	5	2	7
	<hr/> 145	<hr/> 144	<hr/> 289

Birth rate per 1,000 of the population—17.4

Stillbirths	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	5	3	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 8

Rate per 1,000 of the population—.48

Deaths (all ages)	M	F	TOTAL
	96	91	187

Death rate per 1,000 of the population—11.3

Deaths of Infants (Under 1 year)	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	6	3	9
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 10

Death rate per 1,000 live births—34.6

TUBERCULOSIS

The table below shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, and figures for the three preceding years are given for comparison purposes.

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1950	99	74	173	31	30	61	130	104	234
1949	96	71	167	31	30	61	127	101	228
1948	78	66	144	31	29	60	109	95	204
1947	69	68	137	29	28	57	98	96	194

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The figures below show the Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1950 in comparison to those of the two preceding years:

	1950	1949	1948
Measles	166	36	91
Whooping Cough	10	19	33
Diphtheria	—	—	3
Pneumonia	8	11	6
Scarlet Fever	33	31	44
Erysipelas	1	3	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	3
Dysentery	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—
Pneum. Meningitis	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	1
Total Cases	221	100	190

Incidence of Infectious Diseases

Parishes	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Erysipelas	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	Acute Poliomyelitis	Pneum. Meningitis	Puerperal Pyrexia
Alstonefield				2						
Bagnall	23	5			2					
Bradnop	5	1			1					
Butterton										
Endon and Stanley	29							1		
Fawfieldhead										
Grindon	1									
Heathylee	4				1					
Heaton	2									
Hollinsclough										
Horton	10			1	1					
Ilam	1									
Leekfrith	11	3								
Longnor										
Longsdon	2									
Norton-in-the-Moors	34	1			20	1		1		
Oncote	15									
Quarnford				2	2					
Rushton	1			2	3					
Sheen										
Tittesworth	28			1	3					1
Warslow and Elkstones										
Wetton										
Total	166	10		8	33	1	—	2	—	1

Months of Occurrence

January	2			2	4	1				
February	25				2					
March	12			1	2					
April	22			1	1					
May	13			1	3					
June	25			1	1					
July	30	3			5					
August	28			1	6					
September	8	2			1					
October	1			1	1			1		
November					4			1		
December		5			3					1
Total	166	10		8	33	1	—	2	—	1

Age Incidence of Infectious Diseases

AGE GROUP	Measles		Whooping Cough		Diphtheria		Pneumonia		Scarlet Fever		Cerebro Spinal Meningitis		Acute Poliomyelitis		Puerperal Pyrexia		Erysipelas	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 Year ...	1	5																
1—5 Years ...	36	59	2	3			2		12	5			1					
6—10 Years ...	19	28	1	2				1	5	5				1				
11—15 Years ...	4	6							1	1								
16—20 Years ...	1	1	1						1	1								
21—30 Years ...	1	2																
31—50 Years ...	1	2	1						1	1								
51—70 Years ...								1									1	
Over 70 Years ...																		
TOTAL ...	63	103	5	5	—	—	6	2	20	13	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—
TOTAL — Male and Female ...	166		10		—	—	8		33		—		2		1		1	

Causes of Death in Leek Rural District 1950.

Causes of Death	Males	Females
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	—
Tuberculosis, Other	—	—
Syphilitic disease	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	7	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	1
Other malignant lymphatic neoplasms ...	5	3
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
Diabetes	—	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	22
Coronary disease, angina	11	4
Hypertension with heart disease	1	2
Other heart disease	22	24
Other circulatory disease	7	1
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	3	3
Bronchitis	6	4
Other disease of respiratory system ...	3	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	10	12
Motor Vehicle accidents	1	—
All other accidents	2	2
Suicide	—	1
Homicide and operations of war	—	—
Total—all causes	96	91

Birth-rates. Civilian Death-rates. Analysis of Mortality. Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious diseases in the Year 1950. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns

	Leek R.D.C.	England and Wales	126 C. Bs. and Great Towns including London	143 smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25000-50000 1931 Census	London Adm. County
Rates per 1,000 Home Population:					
Births					
Live Births	17.4	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8
Still Births	.48	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36
Deaths					
All Causes	11.3	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.06	0.36	0.42	0.33	0.39
Influenza	—	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.07
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Pneumonia	0.36	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.43
Rates per 1,000 Live Births:—					
Deaths					
All causes under 1 year of age	34.6	29.8(a)	33.8	29.4	25.3
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	—	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.0
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:—					
Notifications—(corrected)					
Typhoid Fever	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection	—	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Scarlet Fever	1.9	1.50	1.56	1.61	1.23
Whooping Cough	0.60	3.30	3.97	3.15	3.21
Diphtheria	—	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03
Erysipelas	0.06	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.17
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	—	—
Measles	9.9	8.39	8.76	8.36	6.57
Pneumonia	0.48	0.70	0.77	0.61	0.50
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)					
Paralytic	0.12	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.03
Non-paralytic	—	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05
Food poisoning	—	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.25
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live & Still)					
(a) Notifications:— (corrected)					
Puerp. Fever and Pyrexia	3.4	5.81	7.43	4.33	6.03
Maternal Mortality in England and Wales					
International List No. and cause	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births		Rates per million women aged 15-44		
651. Abortion with sepsis	0.09		7		
650,652. Other abortion	0.05		4		
640-649, 670-678. Complication of pregnancy and delivery	0.54		—		
681. Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium	0.03		—		
680, 682-689. Other complications of the puerperium	0.15		—		

(a) Per 1,000 related live births.

Sanitary inspection of the Area—

Summary of Visits

HOUSING :

(A)	Building Licencing	...	...	...	...	30
(B)	Inspection for Defects	...	...	...	...	387
(C)	Requisitioning	...	...	...	...	4
(D)	Council Houses	...	...	...	...	184
(E)	Council House Applicants	...	...	...	...	124
(F)	Repairs—Follow up Visits	...	...	...	...	126
(G)	Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	41
(H)	Blackshaw Moor Camp	...	...	...	...	92
(I)	Building Inspections	...	...	...	...	41
						—
						1029
	Inspection of Premises for Nuisances	...	...	...	...	158
	Visits re Food Supply	...	...	...	...	24
	Visits re Milk Supply	...	...	...	...	27
	Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	37
	Knackers Yards	...	...	...	...	10
	New Drains Laid	...	...	...	...	43
	Drainage Inspections	...	...	...	...	171
	Conversions	...	...	...	...	35
	Public Sewers	...	...	...	...	58
	Sewage Works	...	...	...	...	115
	Conveniences	...	...	...	...	12
	Water Supplies—General	...	...	...	...	181
	Samples of Water Taken	...	...	...	...	106
	Eastern Area Water Scheme	...	...	...	...	73
	Bagnall Parish Water and Sewerage	...	...	...	...	32
	Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	96
	Nightsoil Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	132
	Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	37
	Fumigations	...	...	...	...	34
	Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	21
	Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	77
	Petroleum Stores	...	...	...	...	65
	Factories	...	...	...	...	47
	Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	118
						—
All other causes						2738

NOTICES SERVED

	Informal Notices	158
	Statutory Notices	3
(a)	Number of Nuisances Remedied	62
(b)	Number of defective dwellings rendered fit following service of Statutory and informal notices	65

Water Supplies, Sewerage and Public Cleansing

Parish	Number of Houses	(a)	(b)	(c)
		Number of Houses with Piped water Supply	Number of Houses on Sewerage System	Number of Houses from which Nightsoil is removed
Alstonefield	121			67
Bagnall	290	200 [‡]		57
Bradnop	88			19
Butterton	74			45
Endon and Stanley	556	486 [‡]	293	93
Fawfieldhead	113			23
Grindon	75	15 (+ 3-std pipes)x		18
Heathylee	81			6
Heaton	103			22
Hollinsclough	58			5
Horton	284			36
Ilam	29			16
Leekfrith	136			23
Longnor	132	22*		122
Longsdon	207	102 [‡]		20
Norton-in-the-Moors	1761	1536 [‡]	1059	647
Onecote	77			16
Quarnford	83			21
Rushton	187			49
Sheen	89			30
Tittesworth	40			15
Warslow and Elkstones	117			43
Wetton	73			48
Total	4774	2361	1352	1441

(a) [‡] Supplied by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board

* Supply gravitating from spring at Hollinsclough.

xSupply gravitating from small reservoir.

(b) Three sewage disposal Works—one in the Parish of Endon and Stanley, and two in the Parish of Norton-in-the-Moors.

(c) Scheme undertaken by direct labour.

Water Supplies

The water in the area has been generally satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The following table gives a summary of the samples of water taken during the year. The percentage of unfit samples appears to be unduly high, but they cannot be assumed to be a true representation of the area as the majority of the samples were taken upon receipt of complaints by consumers who were suspicious of the appearance or palatability of their drinking water, or where the water was suggested as a proposed private supply.

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN		RESULTS	
	For Bacteriological Examination	For Chemical Analysis	Fit	Unfit
Wells	10	10	2	8
Boreholes	11	11	5	6
Private Piped Supplies ...	2	2	2	—
Springs	27	25	7	20
Brook	4	4	—	4
Total ...	54	52	16	38

In no case did the chemical analyses reveal plumbo-solvent action of the water sampled.

Upon receipt of the results of water samples from the Laboratories copies of the reports are transmitted to the consumer and/or persons requesting the analysis, and advice given as to the treatment where an unsatisfactory report is received.

Particulars as to houses served by public water mains and stand-pipes are embodied in the table on the previous page.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No new works of sewerage and sewage disposal were carried out during the year.

HOUSING.

New Houses Erected During the Year.

(a) By Local Authority (Baddeley Green Site)	28
(b) By Private Enterprise	2
	—
	30

Control of Civil Building—Building Licences

Number of Private Building Licences granted	3
No. of Private Houses Built During Year	2
No. of Licences issued for Repairs, Adaptations, etc., to Property	36

APPLICATIONS FOR TENANCY OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

At the end of the year there were 268 applicants on the register for the tenancy of Council Houses, and of these 38 applications were from applicants living outside the Council's area.

The following table gives a summary of the 239 applications received from those persons living in the Council's area:

PARISH	Applications	Shared Accom- modation	Tenanted Accom- modation
BAGNALL	7	3	4
BRADNOP	2	2	—
ENDON	39	22	17
GRINDON	2	1	1
HORTON	3	2	1
ILAM	1	—	1
LONGNOR	27	9	18
LONGSDON	3	—	3
NORTON			
Baddeley Green	85	59	26
Brown Edge	35	20	15
Norton Green	25	16	9
RUSHTON	1	—	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	230	134	96

Inspection of Dwelling Houses During the Year

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	342
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	387
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-heading (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	116
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	116
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	14
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	100

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers	93
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ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

(a) Proceedings under the Housing Act 1936	Nil
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Act 1936	Nil
(c) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which an undertaking not to use a dwelling for human habitation was accepted (Housing Act 1936)	Nil

FACTORIES ACTS. 1937 and 1948

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	21	30		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	17		
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ‡ (excluding out - workers' premises)				
TOTAL	33	47	—	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) . .					
(a) insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective..					
(c) Not separate for sexes..					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)					
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—

‡ i.e. Electrical Stations [Section 103 (1)], Institutions (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering construction (sections 107 and 108).

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111)

There were 18 outworkers notified during the year for the making of wearing apparel.

FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION.

Food Preparing Premises.

There are 8 premises in the Area registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the manufacture of prepared meats.

Twenty-nine shops are registered under the Act for the sale of Ice Cream.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year

MEAT—Carcases Inspected and Condemned—Nil.

There is no Regional - Controlled abattoir nor private slaughter houses licensed in the area.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Thirty-nine licences were issued for the storage of Petroleum spirit.

MILK SUPPLY.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS AND THE SPECIAL DESIGNATION REGULATIONS.

(1)	(a) No. of Distributors	13
	(b) No. of Dairies (other than Dairy Farms)	5
(2)	No. of licences issued to sell—	
	(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	3
	(b) Sterilised Milk	9
	(c) Pasteurised Milk	5

Meat and Other Foods

Number of Slaughterhouses Licensed	—
Number of Knacker's Yards Licensed	1
Number of men holding licence to slaughter	61

Weight of Foods Condemned

(a) Tinned Foods	26 lbs.
(b) Miscellaneous Foods	—
	<hr/> 26 lbs.

H. KELSO WATSON

Medical Officer of Health.

F. HEMINGWAY

Sanitary Inspector.

